

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough Examination of the application. No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this Response.

Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-8, 12-16 and 19-26 are pending in the application.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has restriction the claims of the invention into to following species:

A. Claims 3 and 13 drawn to a liquid crystal device having a second light absorbing film 38a formed under the source electrode 38b and a third light absorbing film formed under the drain electrode as shown in Fig. 5.

B. Claims 4 and 14, drawn to a liquid crystal device having a second light absorbing film 38 formed under the semiconductor or active layer as shown in Fig. 6.

The Examiner finds claims 1, 2, 5-8 12, and 15-26 to be generic.

Applicants elect species B with traverse. Claims 4 and 14 read upon this species.

As set forth in Section 803 of the MPEP, the Examiner must examine an application on the merits if the examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. Two criteria are identified for proper requirement for restriction:

1. The inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and

2. There must be a serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required.

Applicant respectfully submits that a serious burden has not been placed on the Examiner to consider all of the claims in a single application. A review of the subject matter set forth in the claims would have an overlapping search. Thus a different field of search really does not exist with regard to the claims of the present application.

Accordingly, rejoinder and examination of all of the claims of the invention on the merits is respectfully requested.

Additionally, upon allowance of a generic claim, applicants respectfully request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141.

Conclusion

If there are any questions regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at 703-205-8000.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of one (1) month to May 16, 2006 in which to file a reply to the Office Action. The required fee of \$120.00 is enclosed herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

MAY - 4 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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